

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 COME-00 SP-02 AID-05

NSC-05 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 PRS-01 PA-02 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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P 281557Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7285

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 0342

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD

SUBJ: GOES MEAT MISSION

1. FOR WASHINGTON AGENCIES' INFORMATION WE ARE OFFERING AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION IF THE SUMMARY OF THE PAPER THE GOES INTENDS TO PRESENT USG OFFICIALS THIS WEEK ON THE MATTER OF THE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT PROGRAM ON BEEF SHIPMENTS.

2. BEGIN SUMMARY: WE ARRIVE AT THE CONCLUSION THAT THE NATIONAL CATTLE HERD HAS THE CAPACITY TO PRODUCE ABOUT FIFTEEN MILLION POUNDS OF MEAT FOR EXPORTATION AND THAT THE ACTIVITY GENERATED BY THE EXPORT PACKING PLANTS HAS CREATED AN INCREASE IN FINANCING AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY; THIS SITUATION IS GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY AND CAUSES THE GOES TO ASK THE USG:

(A) FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT IN THE SPECIFIC CASE OF MEAT IMPORTED FROM EL SALVADOR, CONSIDERING THE EFFORTS MADE BY CATTLEMEN AND THE GOES TO DEVELOP THE MEAT INDUSTRY. THIS SITUATION WAS NOTED BY THE REST OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHEN THEY MET AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL ON THE MATTER OF MEAT QUOTAS. THEY ALL REALIZED THAT EL SALVADOR DID NOT HAVE A MEAT EXPORT HISTORY COMPARABLE TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA.

(B) THAT THE QUOTA ASSIGNED TO EL SALVADOR BE CALCULATED IN A UNCLASSIFIED

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FORM DIFFERENT FROM THAT USED TO ARRIVE AT THE QUOTA LEVEL FOR

THE REST OF THE MEAT-SUPPLYING COUNTRIES. THIS IS BECAUSE THIS COUNTRY HAS ONLY A THREE-YEAR HISTORY AS AN EXPORTER OF MEAT AND, THUS, DOES NOT MERIT THE SAME TREATMENT GIVEN THE OTHER MEAT SUPPLIERS.

(C) THAT THE TOTAL VOLUME OF THE QUOTA ASSIGNED TO EL SALVADOR BE FIFTEEN MILLION POUNDS, ON THE BASIS OF TRUE PRODUCTION CAPACITY AND THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE GOES AND THE NATION'S CATTLEMEN TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIVESTOCK.

(D) THAT THE USG CONSIDER ANNUAL INCREASES IN THE QUOTA LEVELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL HERD. SUCH A POLICY WOULD STIMULATE THE ECONOMY OF EL SALVADOR. END SUMMARY.

3. BODY OF PAPER NOTES INVESTMENT IN LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY OF MORE THAN \$20 MILLION OVER LAST TEN YEARS AND FACT THAT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (MAG) HAS TREBLED ITS EXPENDITURES ON THE INDUSTRY OVER LAST FIVE YEARS. THE BEEF INDUSTRY IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE EFFORT TO DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMY EBD EXPORTS HAVE RAISED CATTLE PRICES TO PRODUCERS AND STIMULATED THE DIVERSIFICATION EFFORT. DIRECT EMPLOYMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE WHOLE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IS IN EXCESS OF 53,000 AND MORE THAN 260,000 PEOPLE LIVE FROM EARNINGS OF THE INDUSTRY.

4. AN ATTACHMENT TO THE PAPER SHOWS ESTIMATED LIVESTOCK POPULATION AND QUOTA "ASSIGNED" FOR EACH OF THE C.A. REPUBLICS. EL SALVADOR IS LAST IN BOTH CATEGORIES. THE MAG HAS FIGURES FROM A CENSUS DONE IN LATE 1974 WHICH SHOW 1,009,499 HEAD OF CATTLE, UP FROM 990,057 AT THE TIME OF THE 1971 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE. ON THE BASIS OF THESE AND OTHER FIGURES THEY CALCULATE THAT NEARLY 196,000 HEAD WOULD BE SLAUGHTERED IN 1975, WITH 44,000 HBST DESTINED FOR EXPORT. THIS ALLOWS FOR AN INCREASE IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION TO 10.4 LBS. OF BEEF, UP FROM THE 1974 LEVEL OF 10.2.  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, EXPORT QUOTAS, MEATS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**To:** STATE  
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